



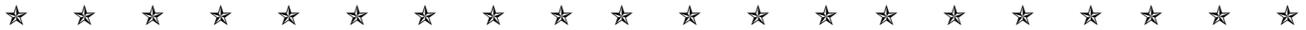
Golden Showcase

Volume 12 Issue 3

July - August - September 2008



It's Fair Time!



President's Message *with Joe Cruz*

Throughout the course of this year, I've had the chance to run into many of our volunteers who happen to volunteer for other organizations, myself included. It gives us the chance to visit and keep in touch during the year. But, before you know it, the California State Fair is just around the corner. Seems like it was months away and now it's just weeks away. This year's theme is Hollywood; so perhaps we will see some Hollywood magic.

Sign-ups have been going well; there are still plenty of open shifts available. And the further we get to the Fair date, we get requests to fill other possible venues and need more volunteers. So if you haven't had a chance to sign-up, don't forget to give our scheduler, Dixie, a call. Her number is listed elsewhere in the newsletter.

Some important events we will be supporting are the Grape and Gourmet that will be held on Thursday, July 10, 2008. The State Fair Gala will be held Friday, August 8, 2008. And let's not forget the important State Fair Orientation that will be held on Saturday, August 9, 2008. It is important that you attend this Orientation. You will receive information on the various activities and events we will support; there will be a trolley tour of the grounds; we will hand out your credentials; you will receive your new logo attire (we hope you will enjoy the change); and then we will have something to eat.

Your Friends' board has been working very hard again this year, and I'd like to mention some of the

things that we've been working toward. Now most of these items are still in the discussion stage but here are some of the changes that might happen for the California State Fair. Most of you know that the Friends operate a Snack Shack in Building 2 at the Expo Center. We are now hoping to open another venue in the Ranch Land area. We're hoping to make the main volunteer desk in the California Building a little larger. Bingo will be moving to a new location closer to the main part of the grounds. We are also working at doubling the size of the Coke Booth. We are working to standardize our attire while volunteering at the California State Fair. And last but not least we have added several new members through our new web-site application. As you can see I've just touched on a few of the items we are working on, but as you read your newsletter and come to the Orientation, you'll get further information. We are looking forward to an exciting Fair.

See you all at the California State Fair,

Joe



2008 California State Fair - August 15-September 1, 2008



2008 Coke Booth *with Mike Evans*

Booth workers in previous years provided many comments related to the heat, lack of air circulation, inability to see the concert stage and the crowded booth conditions. Last year's relocation addressed some of those by reorienting the front of the booth towards the stage and providing much appreciated shade. The 2008 State Fair is only weeks away and your board is preparing our organization to meet challenges both old and new. Among other things we are negotiating to enlarge the coke booth by as much as double to remove the backdrop and open it to both the north and south sides. This will make us more visible to patrons coming and going to the Counties Building and Golden 1 Stage areas. Fortunate side benefits for staff working in the booth would include even better air circulation through the booth and a less crowded, more open workspace for us in the process. We must still get approval from Cal Expo administration and different equipment donated by Coca Cola to make this work. We also hope to have a chest freezer donated in time for the fair so we will have a plentiful supply of ice on hand and not have to rely on other vendors as in the past. If successful we will need to add at least another worker to some shifts.

Sign-ups have been booming but it is apparent that not too many of you have checked the concert schedules at <http://www.bigfun.org>. We still have openings for most of them including the Fab Four Tribute to the Beatles, Al Jarreau and believe it or not – CHICAGO! Because of our booth location it is an excellent place to catch the concerts while fulfilling your volunteer duties. Come to the July Board meeting and sign up to see for yourself how well we are doing.

Hi Everyone! *with Harry Moos*

August 15 is drawing near, BUT we do have the Grape and Gourmet on Thursday July 10, 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. August 8, the Gala will be bigger and better with a new auction company to help us raise money for the Scholarship fund. Advance State Fair admission tickets, Poppy Packs, & advanced discounts tickets are available on line at www.bigfun.org now.

The theme will be "The California State Fair is Going Hollywood."

The 4th of July Celebration preferred seats at \$10.00 now on sale at www.tickets.com.

I look forward to seeing you all at Orientation on August 9.



Checking In *with Cindy Fraiser*

Hi Friends, It's almost fair time - our busy time. My name is Cindy Frazier and I'm one of your trustees. Most of the time you'll find me at the coke booth, or you might see me walking around with a little one in tow, for my grandson Zakary is almost 2.

Click and a flash...I just took your picture. So smile; you might be in our history book. If you have any pictures or articles or anything appropriate for our album, just get it to me. I would love the contribution.

See you all real soon.





Non-Fair Scheduling *with Pam Howard*

Greetings from scheduling. The Sacramento County Fair just had a successful finish. The Spring Farm Tours were a rousing success. The mailings have all gone out, and the hard working volunteers can rest for a moment before State Fair judging begins. I want to say "Thank You-Job well done" to all those brave souls who survived the short notice mailings, frantic late night calls, supply chain shortages, long hours, and numb fingers. Without your dedication to supporting our commitment to serve, we would never have been able to support all the tasks to be done. All the mailings got out on time, all the shifts at Sacramento County Fair were filled. A big "Hip-Hip-Hurrah" to all the brave souls who brought their own tools for Monday night breakdown! Thanks, guys! When I took on the job of scheduling volunteers, I was perhaps overconfident that things would go smoothly. I stressed a lot, but things have always worked out. The Friends of the California State Fair are the finest group of volunteers I have ever worked with, and I feel honored to serve you as scheduling co-coordinator.

June 28 will start the 2008 California State Fair pre-fair activities with a day of Youth Exhibit receipts. There are still many spaces on many days to be filled, so be sure to come to the regular sign-up nights on July 8 and fill a few of the open vacancies. The biggest days are the judging days when many people are needed to clerk for the judges. Tuesday, July 8 is Youth Art; Wednesday, July 16 is Adult Creative Arts; and Friday, July 18 is Industrial Arts and Education. Anyone available and not already signed-up, call me at 837-0345 to come play! This is my favorite part of pre-fair activities...I get to see the entries up close and hear how the judges grade

the entries and why. I always learn new things about art and design. So, get on that phone and be a part of the Big Fun!

Fair Scheduling *with Dixie Van Allen*

Summer is upon us and the fair will be here before we know it. I am especially excited this year, as we have quite a few new members to add to our family. Shift sign ups have been going well, but we still have many vacancies to fill for evening shifts in the California building, and afternoon and evening shifts in Exposition Center. We also have vacancies for all shifts in the Snack Shack, Coke Booth, 9/11 Memorial, and Passport Distribution & Fruit Stand booth.

One new change implemented this year will be with the shifts in the Farm. The team captains for the California building will also be in charge of overseeing the shifts in the Farm area. If you sign up for any shifts in the Farm, please check in with the team captain in the California building prior to beginning your shift and again when your shift is over. Your team captains will check on you periodically throughout your shift to make sure everything is running smoothly.

If you haven't had a chance to sign up, or even if you want to work a little more, please call me at (916) 416-1865 (cell) or e-mail me at landoctn@surewest.net for any fair time shifts. If you are especially interested in shifts involving competitions or farm tours, please contact Pam Howard. I am looking forward to seeing everyone again this year and hope all of you have a great summer.



Golden 1 Stage – WOW! The line-up includes:

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|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| The Doodlebops Live! – Saturday, 8/16 | Gary Allan – Saturday, 8/23 |
| Weird Al' Yankovic – Monday, 8/18 | The Low Rider Band – Tuesday, 8/26 |
| The Fab Four – Tuesday, 8/19 | CHICAGO – Wednesday, 8/27 |
| Air Supply – Thursday, 8/21 | Al Jarreau – Thursday, 8/28 |
| Vanessa Hudgens – Friday, 8/22 | Grand Funk Railroad – Friday, 8/29 |

And yes, Terry Stokes will again be on **PG&E Center Stage!**





Friends of the California State Fair 2008 Orientation

Saturday, August 9 - 1 pm
Turf Club - Cal Expo Grandstand

Good friends, new friends, lots & lots of info, maps, etc.

DO NOT MISS!

RSVP - Call before August 1

Romaine 916 344-7131

For members, It's free, but you must RSVP

Guests \$30 each



2008 Friends of the California State Fair Board

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Fair scheduling questions call:			
Dixie Van Allen		416-1865	Email: landoctn@surewest.net





Important Tidbits *with Anne Jones*

Hi All...Well, here we are again. It's six weeks until the first Fair attendee walks through the gates and utters those words so dear to our hearts...Where's the nearest bathroom?

I'm bursting with excitement and expectations of the forthcoming State Fair. It's like planning for a wonderfully traditional family event such as, at my house, Christmas morning...pure love of the anticipation.

A lot of good things are happening with the Friends...we have a new uniform that will debut at Orientation; the 2008 FOF pins have been ordered...a bit smaller but with a big punch of color! Bingo is back and in a fan friendly location (Cantina area under Expo 1) and we have a wonderful second location for the FOF Snack Shack...in the old Crystal Ice Cream gazebo near Ranch Land! Do not miss Orientation...it will be memorable!

And the quilt...Wait until you see what Carla Knee created this year. It is beautiful. Sharon Moos has graciously taken on the quilting of it and with her expertise and Carla's creativity we are in for a treat!

Ok, on to the dates/times, etc., stuff:

LAST Sign-ups – Tuesday, July 8: This is the final date and there are quite a few of available spots scattered throughout the Fair that need to be filled. You may be surprised...just be open minded and be willing to try something new this year! It will still be Big Fun!

Grape & Gourmet – Thursday, July 10: For all of you that have signed up to work with Pam, thank you. For all others you are able to get discounted tickets (\$25) at the "box office" between 9 am and 4 pm on June 30-July 3 or on the day of the event. This is truly the premier event at Cal Expo...hundreds of wines, beers, and tastings of food, food, food!

Gala – Friday, August 8: Again, for you that have signed up through Pam, thank you. This dinner, silent and live auction, and wine tasting is a great evening and as always, it is an extremely pricy event. Anyone that would like to purchase a ticket and sit at the FOF tables, please contact me directly.

ORIENTATION – Saturday, August 9: This is a **do-not-miss-event**. Last year Pam Howard and I did a small group session for new members...many of the "old" members attended and thought it was great, so this year we are doing that type of info sessions for everyone. It will start at 1 pm and end with a fun early dinner at 3 pm. Please put this on your calendar and be there!

State Fair ID Badges – If you don't already have yours, pick it up from Human Resources at the Cal Expo Admin Bldg sometime between July 15 and August 7; Monday-Friday, 9 am-4 pm (closed for lunch 12-1 pm). You must have your photo ID badge before the fair begins. If you are helping with anything at Cal Expo, please feel free to stop in and see if they have the time to help you. This time of year the Human Resources staff is swamped; please be patient and extra nice. I will have the last few badges (for returning members) at Orientation. Thanks.

California State Fair 2008 – The Fair opens Friday, August 15 and runs through Labor Day, Monday, September 1. It will be open every day. Monday-Thursday - 12 noon-10 pm; Friday-Sunday & Labor Day - 10 am-10 pm. The theme this year is "The California State Fair is Going Hollywood."

California State Fair tickets – The Box Office will be open beginning August 1 (9 am – 4 pm), Monday-Friday, and will allow every member of FOF to purchase 15 tickets at the reduced price of \$5 each. You must have your State Fair ID.

Poppy Paks – 4 general admissions, 1 parking pass. They may be purchased on line for \$29.95 now through August 13.



Mark Your Calendar

Last 2008 State Fair Sign-Ups

Tuesday, July 8, 6 – 7 pm
Admin Bldg, Cal Expo...PLEASE USE SIDE ENTRANCE

Grape & Gourmet

Thursday, July 10 - See inside for additional info.

Gala

Friday, August 8 - See inside for additional info.

Friends of the California State Fair Orientation

Saturday, August 9 - See inside for additional info.



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